

The Brethren Evangelist,

ASHLAND, OHIO.

A. D. GNAGEY, : : Editor.

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Editorial.

AN APPEAL TO OUR READERS.

The BRETHREN EVANGELIST is the official organ of the Brethren church. It is the only paper published by and in the interests of the church of the Brethren. For almost two years we have labored hard to bring the paper up to the standard which the cause it advocates merits. We have endeavored to enlist the very ablest men and women as contributors to its columns. We thank our people for their liberal response to our various appeals. We thank God for the patience they have exercised toward us, in our, perhaps, too frequent calls upon them. Our friends have nobly stood by us and we have no complaint to "lay in." We would not be justified in complaining, for our people have done well. The circulation of the paper has been considerably enlarged, and the subscription list still grows, though very slowly.

Can you endure one more appeal? The price of the EVANGELIST from July 1, to the end of the year—6 months—is 75 cents. Do you, reader, really think it possible to add 600 new subscribers at this price? Think soberly and answer. Pastors, do you know of any members in your congregation who do not read the paper? Do you know of *one, two, three, or more*? Have you asked them to subscribe? Have you personally called on them and tried to induce them to take the paper? Reader, whoever you are, do you know of a single member in the church who is not a reader of the EVANGELIST? Will you make it your business to call on such, personally, and urge them to take the paper? *Can we not interest every reader of the Evangelist to the extent of making a personal effort to extend the circulation of your church paper?* Nothing else, no other interest of the church is more deserving of your patronage, than the Publishing House. Among the agencies of the church, no other interest lies so near its heart, as the publishing interests. There is no other agen-

cy or institution of the church so potent for good as its literature. Not only our future success, but our very life and existence depends on the character and extent of our literature. You should allow *nothing* else to withdraw your support from the literature of the church. You are asked to give liberally to Ashland University. It is well that you should do so. Pay its debt. But if such giving detracts in the least from your support to the church's literature, then you are making an unprofitable investment. First, foremost and paramount, stands your duty to support the most powerful agency of the church—*its literature*. We say it calmly, dispassionately, "clothed in our right mind," but earnestly, the church can better afford to withdraw its support from any and all its agencies and institutions, than withdraw support from its literature. And any scheme, plan or system that tends to withdraw such support, is an *injury to the church and the cause*. Whatever other appeals are made to you, let nothing come between you and the church's literature. Stand by your church paper—the BRETHREN EVANGELIST. Make every lawful effort to increase its circulation and enlarge its field of usefulness. Give your liberal support to our Sunday-school literature than which there is none better. Support by donation the Book and Tract Department. Do this and our word for it, you make the best investment it is possible for you to make. See our special offer elsewhere.

A GREAT OFFER.

Elsewhere in this issue is found an appeal to our readers in which attention is called to a special offer for new subscriptions. Here is our offer:

1. For *four* new subscribers at 75 cents to the end of the year from July 1, we will send you prepaid Smith's complete Bible Dictionary. Not a cheap abridged edition, but a complete work in one large volume of over 1000 pages, printed on good paper, from clean type, substantially bound in cloth. This is an *extraordinary* offer. If you prefer the "Life and Epistles of St. Paul," by Conybeare and Howson, a book of about the same size as the Dictionary, and for years a standard work, you can have it for the same number of subscriptions. *Two* new subscribers for a year at \$1.50 will count for the same as *four* at 75 cents for six months.

2. For *ten* new subscriptions at 75

cents, or *five* at \$1.50, we will send you prepaid, Jameison, Faussett and Brown's Commentary, in one large volume, bound in cloth. Every minister should have this commentary. It is a standard work, commenting on almost every verse in the Bible. It is also very useful to Sunday-school superintendents and teachers.

3. If you prefer we can send you a nice Bible for *three* new subscriptions, and so on up to *twelve* subscriptions, for which you will get a \$9.00 Bible.

We surely have reasons to hope to hear of many who have taken advantage of this very liberal offer, for here are books which every Christian can use and which some *must* have, and the terms are certainly the most reasonable that could be expected.

DOCTRINAL NUMBER OF THE EVANGELIST.

During the month of July we will issue a special number of the EVANGELIST containing a symposium, touching all the various doctrines of the Brethren church. Here is a list of the subjects to be treated and the names of the contributors:

1. Baptism—Its Design. J. C. Mackey.
2. Baptism—Subjects of. Martin Shively.
3. Baptism—Is it Immersion? J. M. Tombaugh.
4. Baptism—Is it Trine? I. D. Bowman.
5. Foot-washing. J. H. Knepper.
6. The Lord's Supper. G. W. Rench.
7. The Eucharist.—Bread and Wine. B. C. Moomaw.
8. Confirmation. J. A. Miller.
9. Non-Resistance. J. W. Beer.

This number of the paper should be distributed throughout the entire country. It will do good. There are many people inquiring for the good old paths, the old Gospel way in which our fathers and the apostles walked. There will also be appropriate editorials, and letters from the Presidents of our various church organizations. It will be an ideal number and we urge our readers everywhere to send in orders for extra copies. If you desire extra copies, *be sure to send in your order early*. Do not wait until the paper is printed for then it may be too late. We have put the price very low, and will accept either *one or two cent stamps*. How many copies do you want? Single copies, two cents. Twelve copies, twenty cents.